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REMARKS

The Examiner has indicated that FIGs. 13-31 are acceptable, but that each figure must be labeled with its own figure number. Applicant has amended the figures as requested by the Examiner, and has amended the specification to reflect the newly-labeled figures. Applicant respectfully requests consideration and acceptance of the amended figures and specification.

Claims 1, 4, and 26 stand objected to due to stated informalities. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 4 as suggested by the Examiner, and has cancelled claim 36. Applicant thus requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 36 and 38-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kasuga. Claims 37, 41, and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kasuga in view of Eichner. Applicant has cancelled claims 36-40 and 42, without prejudice, and has amended independent claim 41 to include features of now-cancelled claim 42, which the Examiner has indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 45 depends from amended claim 41, which should now be allowable, and claim 43 has been amended to depend from amended claim 41 as well.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the claim rejections. Applicant reserves the right to timely file a continuation application directed at least to the subject matter of the previously-rejected claims.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner should call Applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By



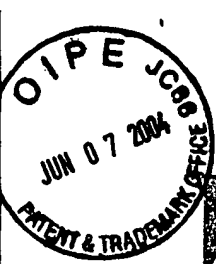
Arik B. Ranson
Registration No. 43,874

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June 1, 2004

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Facsimile: (312) 360-9315

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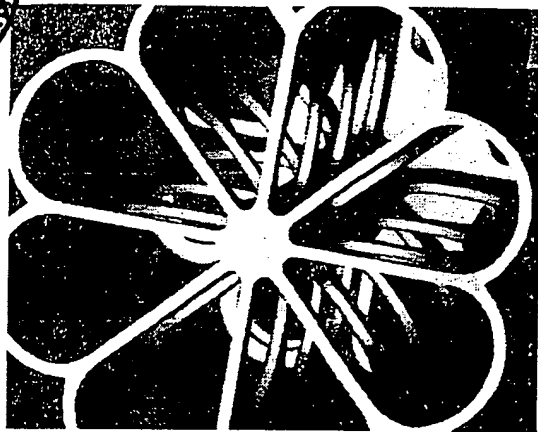


FIG. 13A

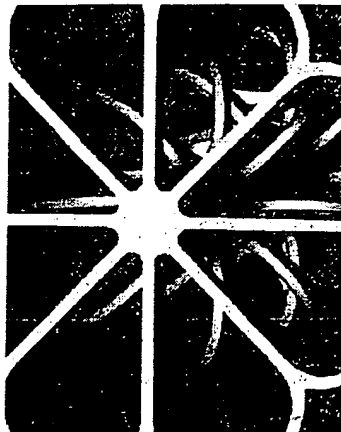


FIG. 13B

~~FIG. 13~~ C



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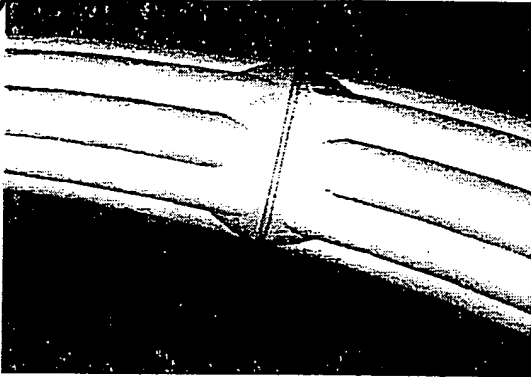


FIG. 14A

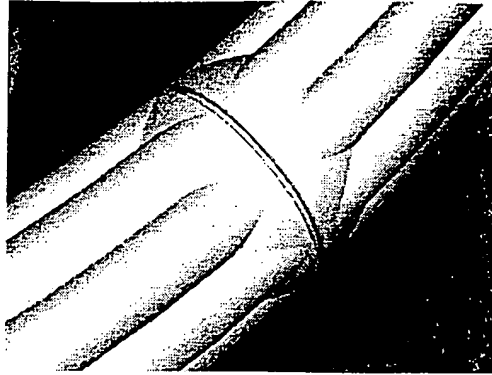
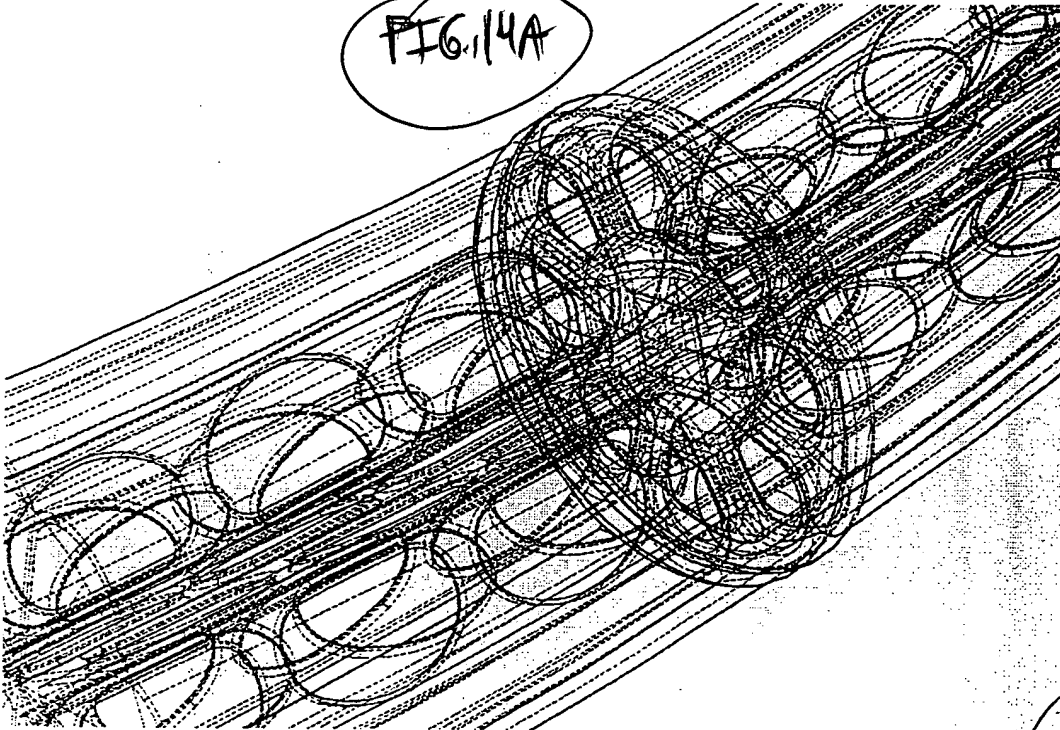


FIG. 14B



~~FIG. 14~~
FIG. 15

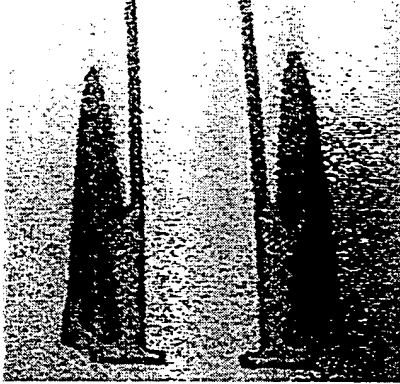
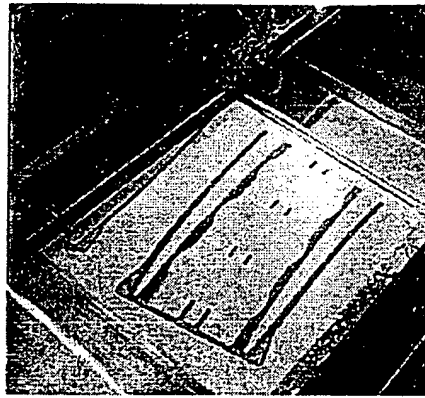


FIG. 16C

~~FIG. 15~~

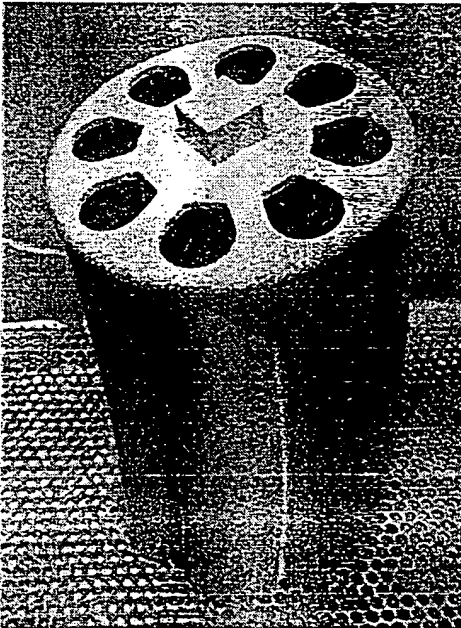


FIG. 17A

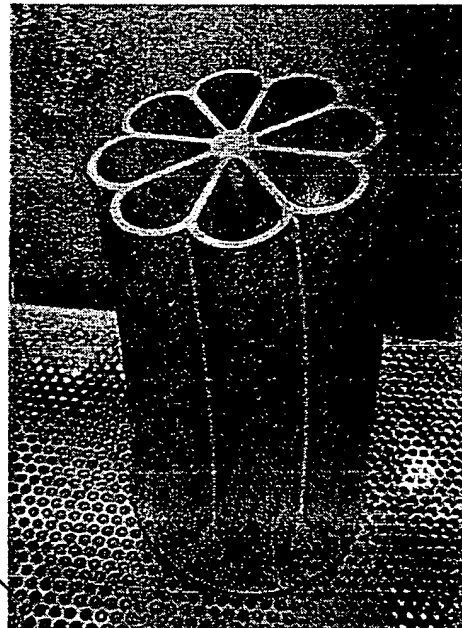


FIG. 17B
~~FIG. 16~~



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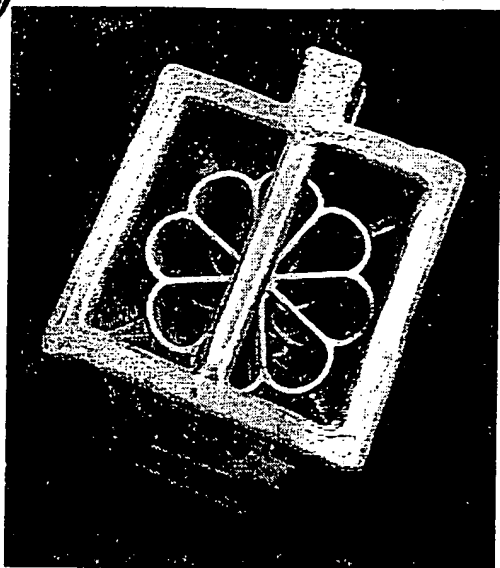


FIG. 1A

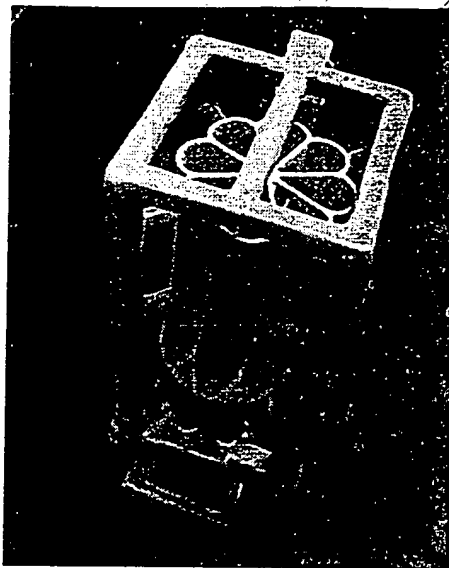
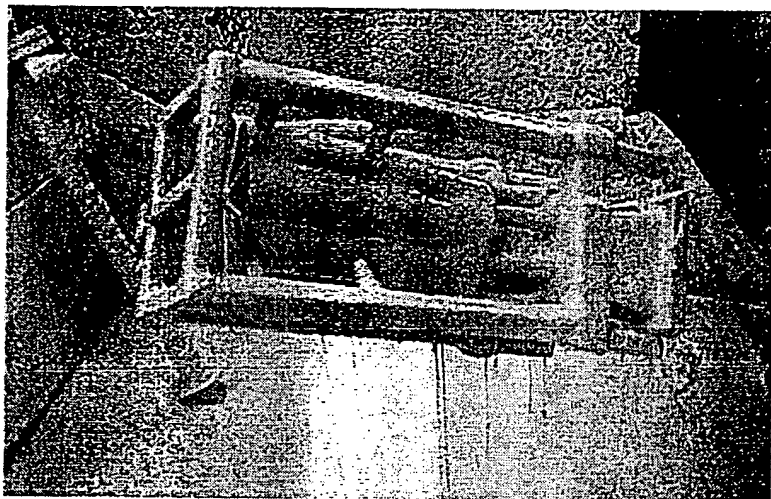


FIG. 1B
~~FIG. 1A~~



~~FIG. 1B~~
FIG. 1C



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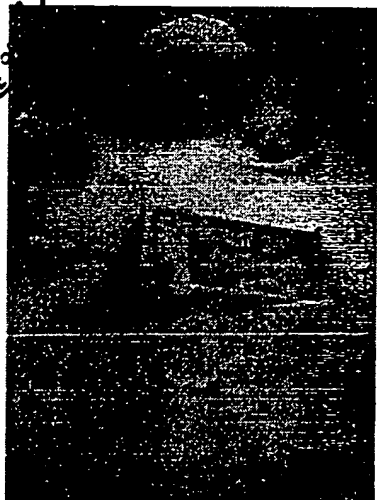


FIG 20A

FIG 20B
~~FIG. 19~~



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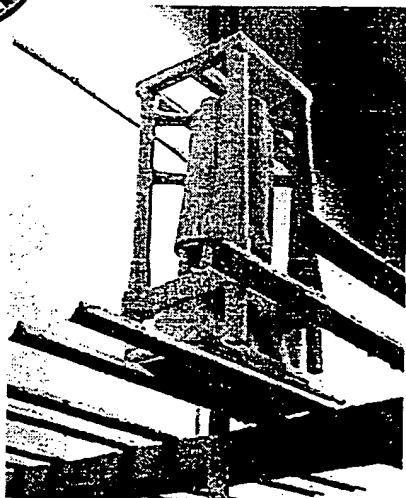


FIG. 21A

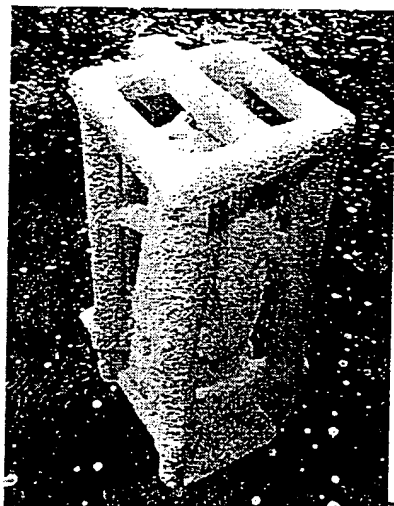
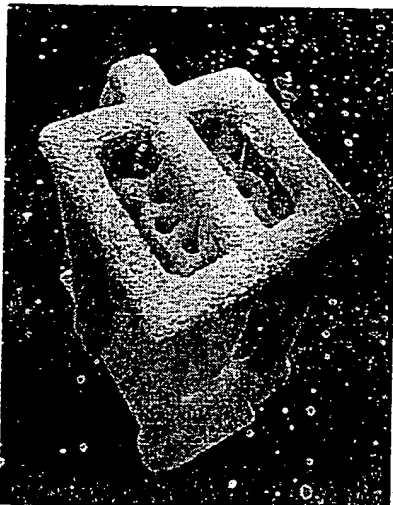


FIG. 21B



~~FIG. 21D~~
FIG. 21C



FIG. 22A

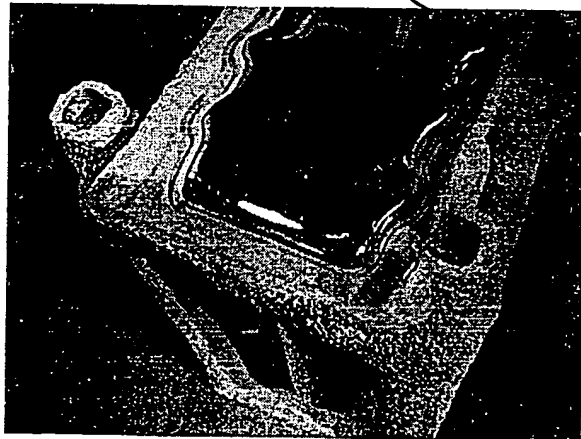
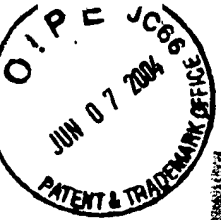


FIG. 22B
~~FIG. 22C~~



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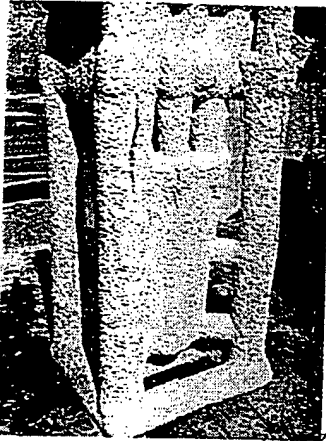


FIG. 23A

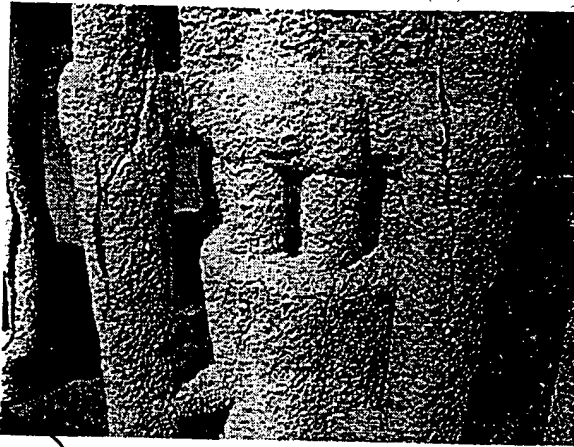


FIG. 23B
~~FIG. 22~~

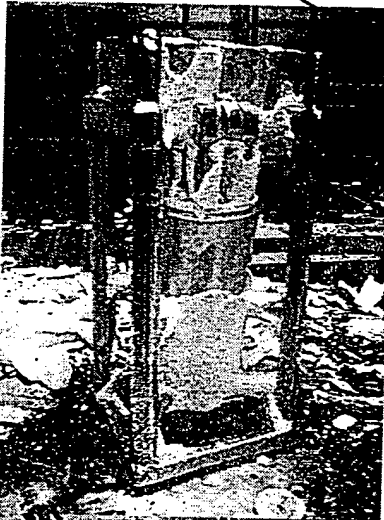


FIG. 24A

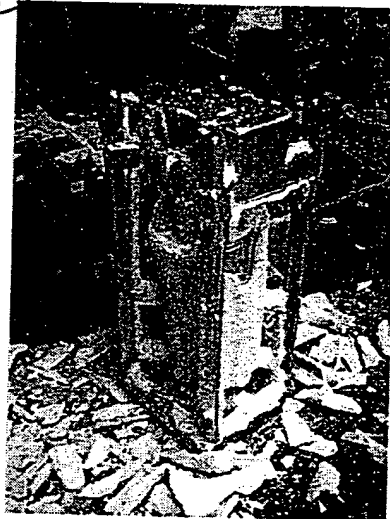
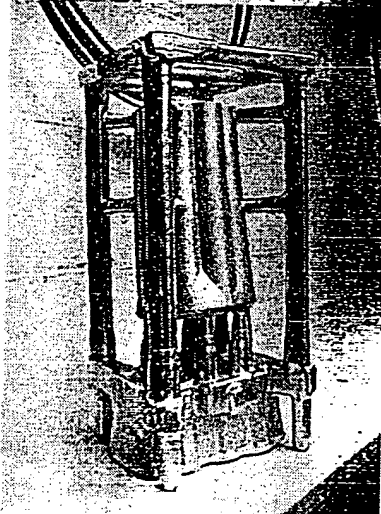


FIG. 24B
~~FIG. 23~~



~~FIG. 24~~
FIG. 25

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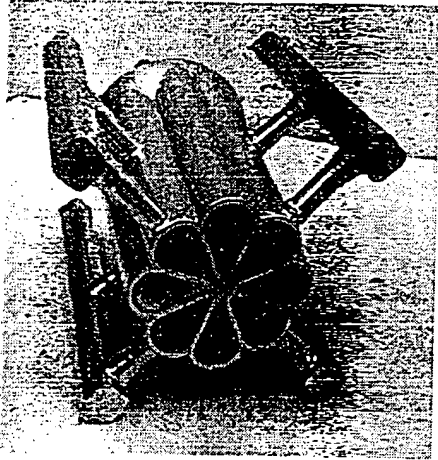


FIG. 26A

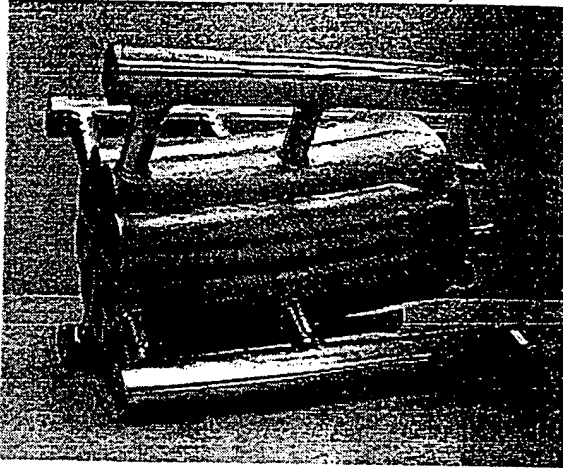


FIG. 26B

~~FIG. 25~~

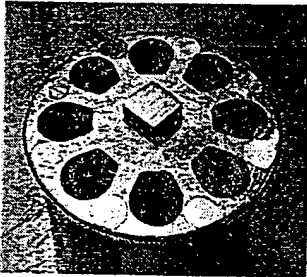


FIG. 27A

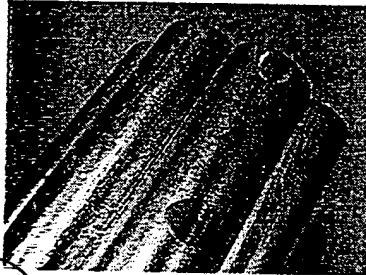


FIG. 27B



FIG. 27C

~~FIG. 26~~

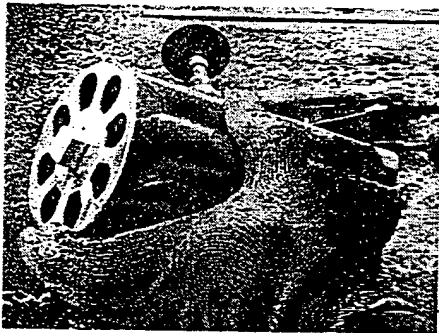


FIG. 28A

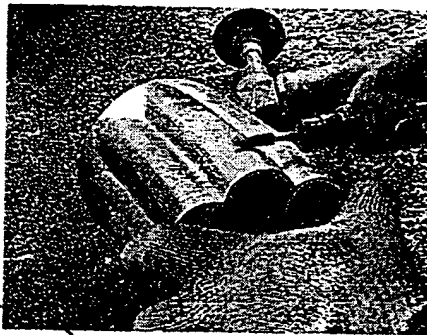


FIG. 28B

~~FIG. 27~~



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FIG. 29A



FIG. 29B



FIG. 29C
~~FIG. 29D~~



~~FIG. 29D~~
FIG. 30

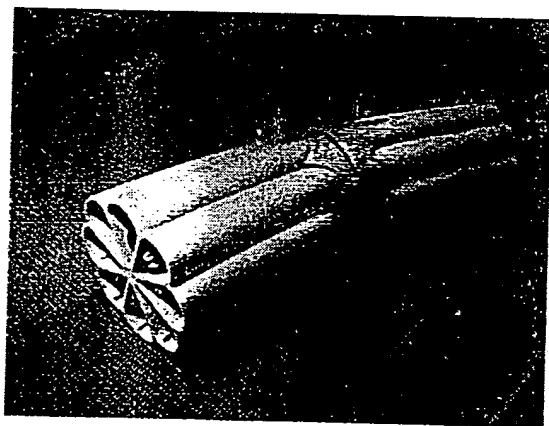
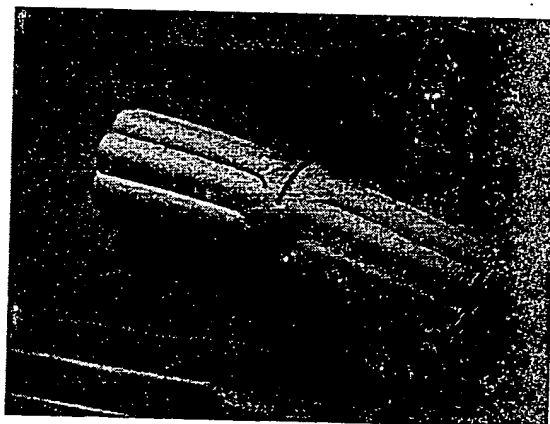


FIG. 31A

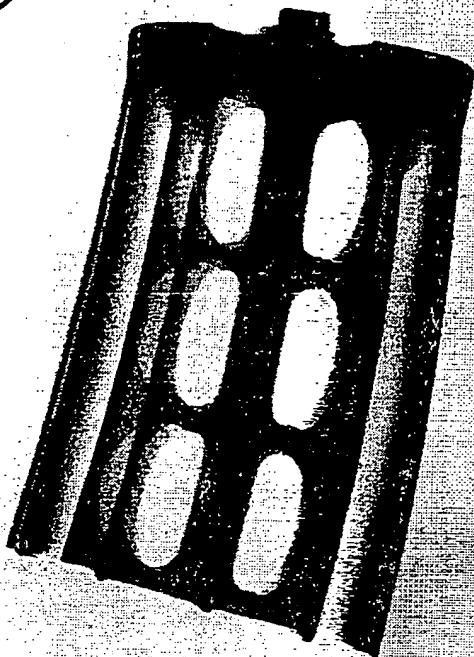


~~FIG. 31B~~
FIG. 31B

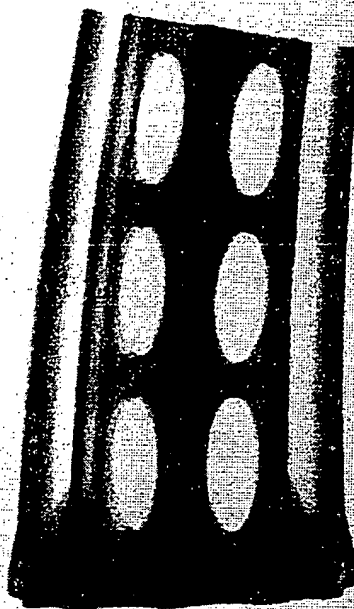


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~~31A~~ FIG. 32A



~~31B~~ FIG. 32B FIG. 31B



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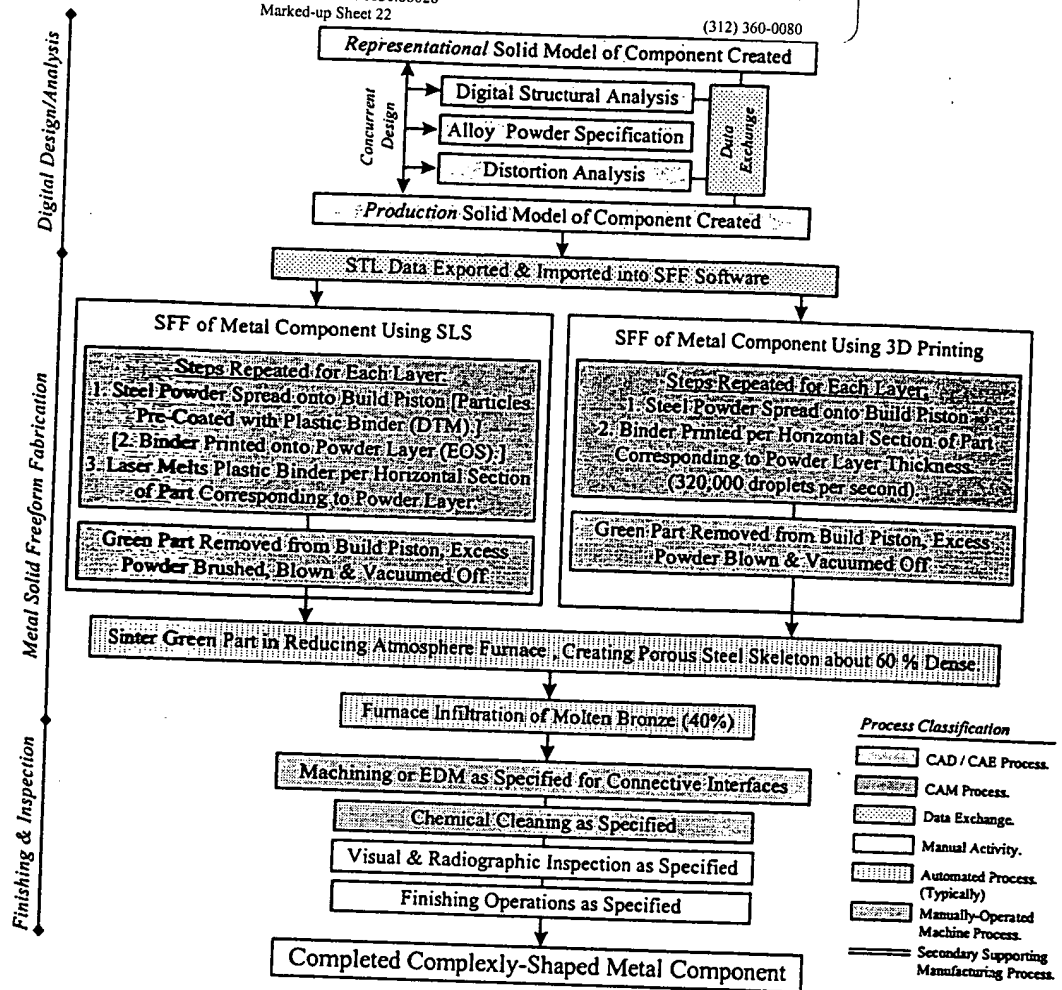


FIG. 32-33

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